

Fired Up Studios™

Member Newsletter

Summer 2009

New Website

If you have visited the Fired Up Studios website (www.firedupstudios.com) recently, you will have noticed that it recently received a major overhaul. If you haven't stopped by recently, we hope you do. We are very excited about the changes to our website, and we are hoping to use it to keep our members better informed about what's happening at Fired Up. We'd like to point out a few of the new website features that are especially for our members:

- Event Calendar (listed under home in the navigation when you are on the home page) – We keep this calendar up-to-date with the firing schedule, upcoming classes, gallery display openings, and office closing. But we want it to include your events as well. You can use the link below the calendar to submit your show information and we'll make sure it gets included. Visitors to our website can also subscribe to the calendar RSS feed. (RSS is a way to publish frequently updated works in a standardized format. Please check <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Rss> for more information about RSS feeds.)
- Member Artists List – We want to help our customers connect with our artists. If you are trying to sell your pottery or have a website you would like us to link to, please use the link on this page to submit your contact information or update your current information.
- For Members page – This is where we keep you informed about what's happening at Fired Up Studios. In addition to information about upcoming workshops, special events and promotions that we are offering, it includes:
 - A twitter feed for our gas kiln status. You can follow us on twitter or just visit the 'For Members' page to see if we are firing this week or if the kiln has been unloaded yet. We will update on Monday by 1 p.m. to let you know if we are firing or not each week.
 - Links to the submission forms for the Event Calendar and Artist List
 - The list of upcoming Gallery Display Themes
 - An archive of past newsletters, including this one.

We hope you will take the time to check out the changes and additions we've made. We'd love to hear your feedback about the new site. If you find a typo or something is confusing, please let us know so we can make changes as necessary.

Gallery Contest for April and May

Help us promote the gallery, and you could win a \$50 credit on your account. We have created a coupon for \$5 off any gallery purchase made during April and May. All you need to do is forward the coupon to your friends and family. Ask them to put your name on the space provided so that you receive credit for the sale when it is used. The member who has the most coupons returned (minimum of 4 coupons) will get a \$50 credit on their account.

The winner will be determined by the number of coupons returned, NOT the top seller for the month or the amount of money spent with the coupon. You do not have to have work for sale in the gallery to win this contest, so please help us spread the word about our gallery.

We have emailed the coupon to all our members who have an email address on file with us. If you did not receive one, please let us know and we can email you one. You can also download the coupon from our website. It is located on the For Members page under the section about this promotion.

Gallery Themes

Don't forget about our monthly gallery display. This is open to all members even if you don't normally participate in our gallery.

The upcoming gallery display themes are:

- May: Vases – Set-up by 05/07/09
- June: Green glazes – Set-up by 06/11/09
- July: Lidded Vessels – Set-up by 07/09/09
- August: Drinking Vessels – Set-up by 08/06/09

A complete list of themes for the year can also be found on our website (listed in the navigation under For Members when you are on any page in the For Members section of the site).

You can also use this list of upcoming themes if you need an idea of what to make or an excuse to experiment and try something new.

Gallery Price Stickers

Please remember that if a price sticker falls off your work, we will move the piece to the Last Chance rack. If you think that one of your pieces is missing, please check the Last Chance Rack to see if it needs re-pricing.

Congratulations Bob and Dawn

Bob and Dawn Brocken are awaiting the arrival of their first child. He or she is expected in late June (the due date is June 28).

FREE Workshop

Thursday, May 28: 6 - 8 p.m.

Saturday, May 30: 10 a.m. – Noon

We are happy to offer another FREE workshop for our members. Steve Hemingway will be running this fun and informative opportunity to advance your clay skills. To participate in the workshop, you must be a member of Fired Up Studios (you can be either a Studio or Firing member). All you need to do is show up and bring your questions. You can come to both sessions or just drop in for part of one. Steve will be available to:

- Give you advice
- Critique your work
- Demonstrate new techniques
- Answer questions about glazing
- Assign projects

Here's what some of our members had to say about the first workshop with Ernest Miller:

"It was really a treat attending a Tuesday night workshop with Ernest. There were only three of us so I got to ask LOTS of questions! I learned about glaze spraying techniques, discussed an unusual effect I'm getting with Peach Shino, learned about sponges and other tools, and had a terrific demo/lesson about how to do shaping of a vase/bottle. I'll definitely attend as many of these as I can. It's a great benefit that members get for free!"
– Diana Meiers

"I really appreciate you offering the free classes, seminars and question and answer sessions. It's wonderful to learn new skills and techniques in a fun, relaxed environment. Thanks for providing us with this opportunity which we so often don't do for ourselves!" – Brynne Macosko-Paguyo

Surface Decoration Class

We are offering a Surface Decoration class with Steve Hemingway on Thursday evenings, starting June 4. The last day to register for the class is, May 28. The class will meet each week for eight weeks on Thursday evenings from 6:30 – 9:00 p.m. Fired Up Members receive a discount when taking the class. Members pay only \$125 instead of the \$230 cost for non-members.

Studio Space Available

We still have one shared studio space available with Cara Hofreiter along the wall by the windows. Shared studio spaces are \$175 per month. If you are interested, please let us know as soon as possible. They are available on a first come, first served basis.

September Price Increases

We are trying very hard to not increase prices, but we need your help. Here are several ways that you can help Fired Up keep prices down.

1. Promote the Gallery by participating in the April/May Gallery contest (see above for contest details)
 - Email the coupon to your friends, family, and co-workers.
 - Print the contest coupon (remember to write your name on them) and bring them to work, give them to your significant other or friends to bring to work, drop them off at coffee shops and salons. Breakrooms and restrooms at the office might be good choices to leave some coupons as long as your office doesn't mind.
2. Become a Fan of the Fired Up page on Facebook
 - We are going to use our Facebook page to promote those services in which the general public might be interested. Such as:
 - Attending our Annual Preview Party (this year it will be Friday, December 4)
 - Announcing our monthly Gallery Displays to keep our gallery in people's mind for purchases
 - Clay Dates for couples looking for something fun to do together
 - Wheel Experience for individuals who want to give pottery a spin (offered the 3rd Saturday of each month).
 - If you become a fan of our page you will see these announcements on your Facebook wall. By clicking the share button on these announcements, you can help us reach a wider audience.
3. Link to our website
 - We are happy to promote our members by linking to your websites. While we do not require a return link, we would appreciate it.
 - If you have a site for your pottery, please add it to our member artist list.
 - If you have a website for your profession outside of art, let us know. We are currently looking at the best way to include those links as well.

No more Raku Clay

As of June 1, we will no longer be offering Raku clay for purchase.